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## USSR BRICK PLANTS EXPAND; SHORTAGES CONTINUE, QUALITY CRITICIZED

MOSCOW OBLAST PLANTS EXPAND -- Moskovskaya Pravda, No 34, 30 Mar 50

Enterprises of the Moscow Oblast Administration of Construction Materials Industry produced over 20 million bricks in the first quarter of 1950. The Nikol'skiy Plant fulfilled the postwar Five-Year Plan ahead of schedule and plans to produce an additional 40 million bricks for new construction projects by the end of the year.

All the other enterprises of this administration are preparing for the coming season. On 15 April all plants will begin to produce bricks for construction projects of Moscow City and Oblast. A number of brick plants will be reconstructed and expanded. Plants in Serpukhov and Sofrino will soon put into operation artificial chamber driers which can produce 24 million bricks per year.

MOSCOW CITY PLANTS PRODUCE POOR QUALITY -- Vechernyaya Moskva, No 110, 10 May 50

During the last 2 or 3 years, construction workers have complained of the poor quality of bricks manufactured by the brick plants under the Moscow City Administration of Construction Materials Industry. For example, the chief engineer of the Second Construction Administration of "Moszhilstroy" Trust states as follows: "The Cheremushki Brick Plant has been sending us roughly shaped pieces of fired clay with cracks. If you measure the thickness of one brick, it is 5 centimeters; another brick is 2 centimeters thicker. Try to build a good-looking, solid wall with such bricks!"

Stone masons of "Glavzapadneftestroy" Trust have complained of the product delivered by the Beskudnikovo Brick Plant. Other enterprises have also been criticized. The criticism appears justified.



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LATVIAN, LITHUANIAN PLANTS MODERNIZED -- Sovetskaya Latviya, No 98, 25 Apr 50

During 1949, considerable changes were made at the Krustpils Brick Plant, Latvian SSR. Eighty percent of the operations have been mechanized. A new tractor scraper was installed for clay mining and a new brick-firing shop was put into operation. Compared with 1949, the plant has tripled its output of various products. Production of tiles and drainpipes has been introduced.

Sovetskaya Litva, No 77, 31 Mar 50

Lithuanian brick and tile plants are preparing for the new season. Brick output in 1950 is to be 27 percent higher than during the previous season. Plants are being equipped with the latest technical improvements, including new vacuum presses, machines for clay grinding, and mechanical devices for extracting clay from the quarries. Workers are receiving new training.

Sovetskaya Litva, No 90, 15 Apr 50

The brick season has begun in brick and tile plants of the Lithuanian SSR. The "Palemonas" and "Sargenay" brick plants produced large quantities of bricks on the first day. The enterprises are equipped with modern machinery. The "Rokay" Plant has installed a vacuum machine and other equipment which makes it possible to use assembly-line production methods. The brick output at this plant has increased 30 percent over 1949. Great changes have been made at the "Sargenay" Plant. Presses have been improved and clay hauling from the quarries has been mechanized.

SVERDLOVSK HAS BRICK SHORTAGE -- Pravda, No 144, 24 May 50

A great deal of construction is being done in Sverdlovsk. However, at the same time there is a considerable shortage of bricks. The largest brick supplier, the "Novostroy" Plant, has lowered brick production as compared with the prewar level. Other brick and slag-block plants have also failed to operate at full capacity. According to estimates of the city planning commission, there will be a shortage of 100 million bricks in 1950, which will prevent fulfillment of construction plans in Sverdlovsk. A number of new apartment houses in this city are unfinished as the builders have no bricks to build stoves and chimneys.

The largest construction trust of the city, "Sverdlovskpromstroy" Trust, decided as far back as 1942 to build a large brick plant. A site was allotted for this purpose, but the plant has not yet been built. Other industrial enterprises and construction trusts have agreed to participate in the expansion of the construction materials industry, but so far no definite steps have been taken.

MOLDAVIA BUILDS NEW PLANT -- Sovetskaya Moldaviya, No 117, 14 Jun 50

The Kamenskiy Rayon Industrial Combine, Moldavian SSR, has built a new plant for the production of bricks and tiles. The seasonal capacity of the plant is to be 250,000 tiles and 100,000 bricks. The plant is equipped with modern brick and tile presses. Basic production processes are completely mechanized.

NOVOSIBIRSK OBLAST NEEDS MORE BRICK PLANTS -- Gorod Novosibirsk i Novosibirskaya Oblast', 1948

Among the leading enterprises of construction materials industry in Novosibirsk Oblast are the ceramics combine at Yevsino Station near Cherepanovo and a number of brick plants in cities and rayons of the oblast, the eastern rayons



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producing 40 percent of all bricks, Barabinskiy Rayon 50 percent, and the southern rayons only 10 percent. A plant for industrial porcelain manufactured from Yevsino clay is to be built in Berdsk.

Expansion of brick production is of the utmost importance. A large brick plant is under construction in Kuybyshevo and new brick plants are planned in Barabinsk and Tatarsk. The present brick industry can satisfy barely 50 percent of the demand in the oblast.

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